OPIATES

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
THIS WE'LL DEFEND
1775

DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF FOR PERSONNEL

ACSAP

OPIATES CONTENT

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  - How are Opiates Consumed?
- What are the Effects?
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WHAT ARE OPIATES?

- ***Opiates are drugs that are derived from the Poppy Plant and are Central Nervous System (CNS) depressants.***
- ***The most common opiates are:***
  - ***Opium***
  - ***Heroin***
  - ***Morphine***
  - ***Codeine***
- ***There are several synthetic opiates available, such as methadone, that were created as pain killers and to help treat heroin addiction.***

HISTORY of OPIATES

Thai Woman Smoking Opium
photo by John W. Allen

1903 ***Heroin addiction in the United States rises at an alarming rate.***

1905 ***U.S. Congress bans opium.***

1906 ***U.S. Congress passes the "Pure Food and Drug Act" which caused that availability and consumption of opiates to decline dramatically.***

1909 ***The first federal drug prohibition passes in the U.S., outlawing the importation of opium and opiates.***

HISTORY of OPIATES

1914 ***The "Harrison Narcotics Act" is passed which required all doctors and pharmacists that prescribed opiates to register with the government and pay a tax.***

1922 ***The "Narcotic Import and Export Act" is passed which restricted the importation of crude opium except for medicinal purposes.***

1923 ***The first federal drug agency, U.S. Treasury Department's Narcotic Division, is formed and all narcotic sales are banned.***

1924 ***The "Heroin Act" is passed and the manufacture, possession, and consumption of heroin is***

HISTORY of OPIATES

1930s ***The majority of illegal opiates smuggled into the U.S. comes from China.***

1945 ***Burma gains independence from Britain following WWII and opium cultivation flourishes in the surrounding areas.***

1962 ***Burma outlaws the cultivation, possession and consumption of opiates.***

1965-70 ***Opium and heroin smuggling into the U.S. is at an all time high. This is blamed in part on the U.S. involvement***

HISTORY of OPIATES

1970 ***Controlled Substance Act is passed which divided drugs into categories and set penalties for crimes involving narcotics.***

Mid 1970s ***Heroin and Opiate use in the U.S. begins to subside. Mexican heroin enters the market and would remain a large player for almost a decade.***

1978 ***The U.S. and Mexican governments meet and decide on a way to eliminate the Opium farms in Mexico.***

HISTORY of OPIATES

1988 ***Opiate production in Burma increases due to the State Law and Order Restoration Council, the Burmese junta regime. The single largest heroin seizure is made in China, 2,400 pounds.***

1992 ***Colombia's drug lords introduce a high grade form of heroin in the U.S.***

1993 ***The Thai Army with support from the U.S. DEA destroyed thousands of acres of opium poppies.***

1995 ***The Golden Triangle area of***

HISTORY of OPIATES

1999 ***United Nations Drug Control Policy (UNDCP) estimates that 75% of the worlds opiates come from Afghanistan and that a bumper crop of over 4,600 tons exists there.***

2000 ***Taliban leader Mullah Omar bans opiate cultivation in Afghanistan, the UNDCP confirms the ban.***

Fall 2001 ***War in***

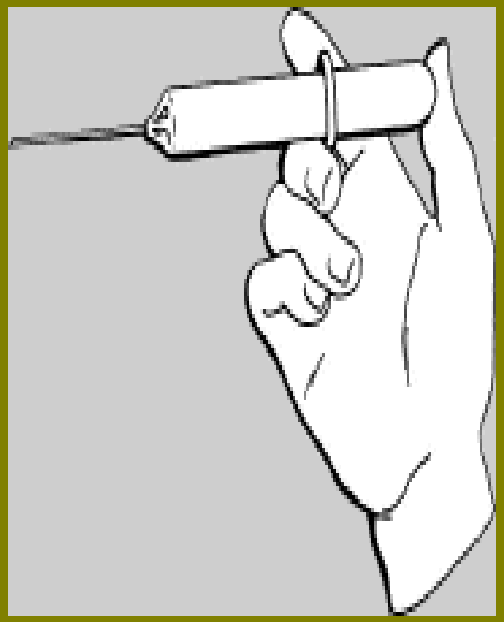
STREET NAMES

- Smack
- Horse
- Junk
- H
- Black Tar
- Soapium
- Tecata
- Mud
- Chiva
- Morf
- China White
- M
- Muzzle
- Dollies
- Hairy
- Hazel
- Poppy
- Flower

HOW ARE OPIATES CONSUMED?

Snorted **– Because of the high potency of heroin today, more and more users are snorting the drug.**

Smoked **– The method of choice for opium is smoking the tar like substance. Other opiates are often smoked on top of marijuana. This is known as *"snow capping".***



Injected **– Injecting opiates, specifically heroin, is still the choice ingestion method. Many addicts choose to inject the drug because of the quick and powerful onset of the effects. Users can inject the drug directly into the blood stream or the muscle tissue.**

Eaten **– All opiates can be consumed orally. Many prescription pain killers on the market today are opiates.**

SHORT TERM EFFECTS

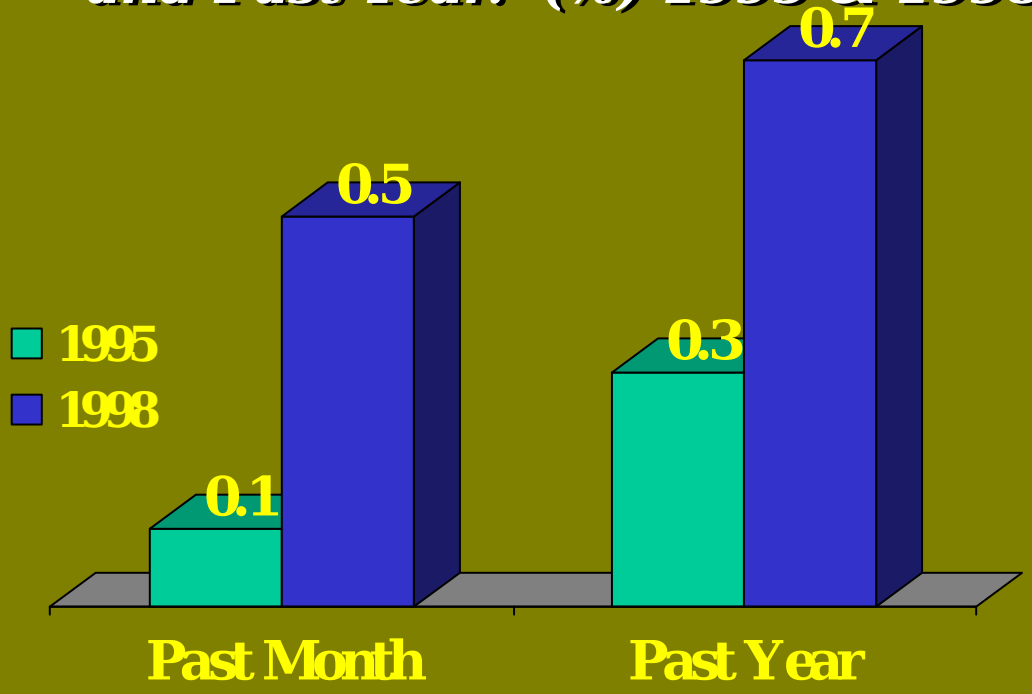
- Absence of Stress
- Itchy Skin
- Impaired Vision
- Sleepiness
- Nausea/Vomiting
- Loss of Concentration
- Absence of Pain
- Constipation
- Loss of Appetite
- Altered Mental Process
- Loss of Sex Drive
- Overdose/Death

LONG TERM EFFECTS

- Severe Constipation
- Contracted Pupils
- Loss of Sex Drive
- Severe Weight Loss
- Frequent Infections
- Collapsed Veins
- Menstrual Irregularities
- Pregnancy Complications
- Immune System Damage
- Liver Damage
- Kidney Damage
- Lung Damage
- Brain Damage
- Death

OPIATE USE IN THE U.S. ARMY

Percentage of Soldiers in the United States Army That Have Used Opiates in the Past Month and Past Year. (%) 1995 & 1998



***DoD Health Survey (1995 & 1998)

OPIATE TESTING IN THE ARMY

- *Opiates can be detected in urine up to 2-3 days after it is ingested.*
- *Opiates are tested on a rotational schedule within the Army.*

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- http://www.erowid.org/chemicals/opiates/opiates.shtml
- http://www.nida.nih.gov/Infofax/heroin.html
- http://www.health.org
- http://www.sayno.com/opiates.html
- http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/drugfact/heroin/index.html

Additional Information

Additional information on Opiates can be found by contacting your local Army Substance Abuse Program or by visiting acsap.army.mil